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# IT WAS THE CALM AND SILENT NIGHT



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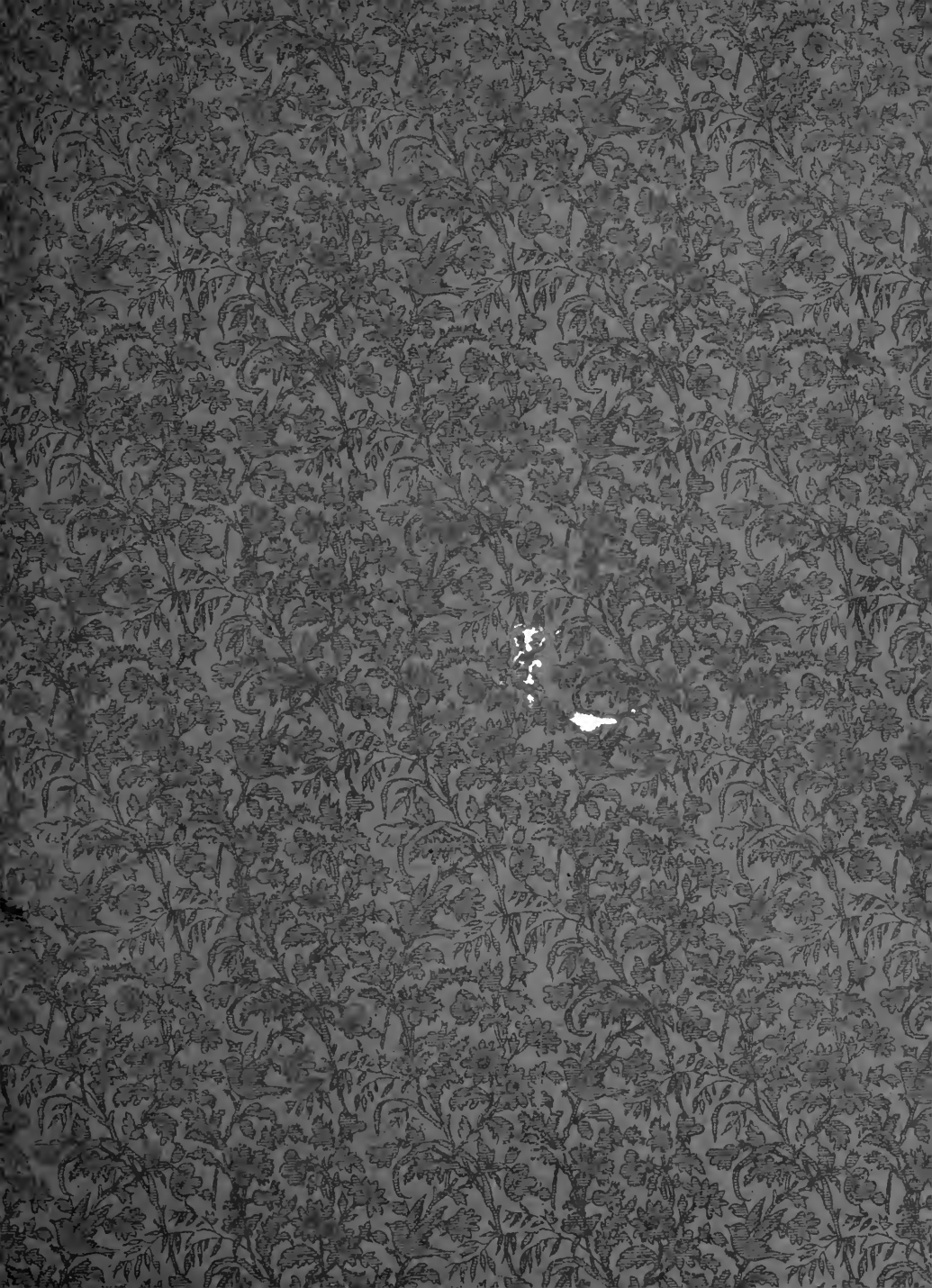
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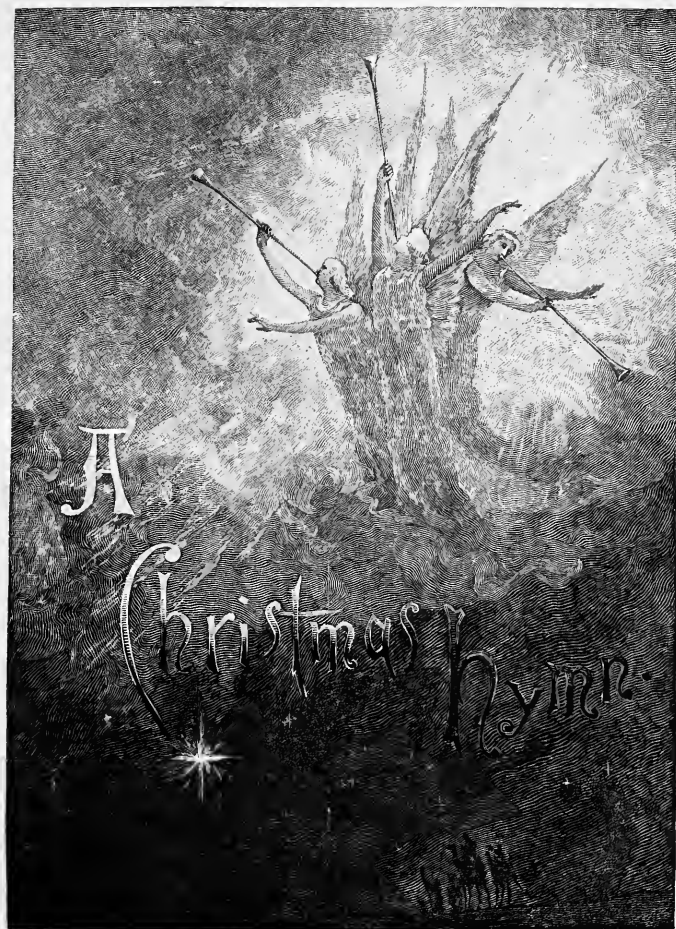
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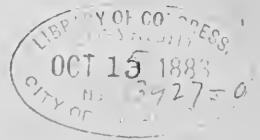
# "IT WAS THE CALM AND SILENT NIGHT"

A CHRISTMAS HYMN

BY

ALFRED DOMETT

ILLUSTRATED



BOSTON

LEE AND SHEPARD, 47 FRANKLIN STREET

NEW YORK

CHARLES T. DILLINGHAM, 678 BROADWAY

1884

✓  
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# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

BY W. L. TAYLOR.

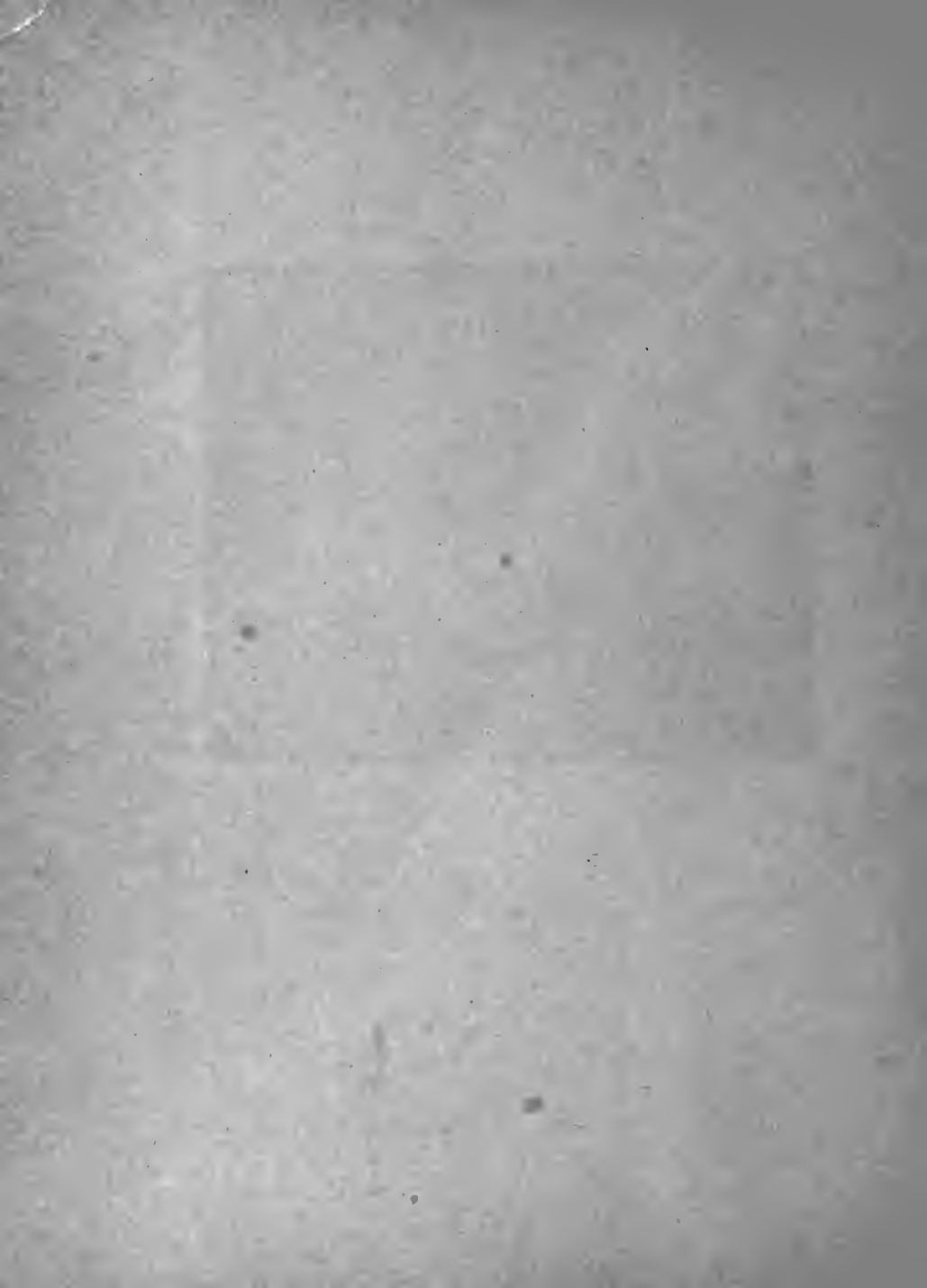


*Drawn and engraved under the supervision of*

GEORGE T. ANDREW.



	PAGE
Illustrated titlepage . . . . .	I
"It was the calm and silent night" . . . . .	7
"No sound was heard of clashing wars" . . . . .	9
"Apollo, Pallas, Jove, and Mars held undisturbed their ancient reign" . . . . .	11
"The senator of haughty Rome" . . . . .	13
"Triumphant arches gleaming" . . . . .	15
"What recked the Roman what befell a paltry province far away" . . . . .	17
"Within that province far away" . . . . .	19
"Went plodding home a weary boor" . . . . .	21
"O strange indifference!—low and high drowsed over common joys and cares" . . . . .	23
"The world was listening—unawares" . . . . .	25
"It is the calm and solemn night" . . . . .	27
"A thousand bells ring out" . . . . .	29
"For in that stable lay new-born" . . . . .	31





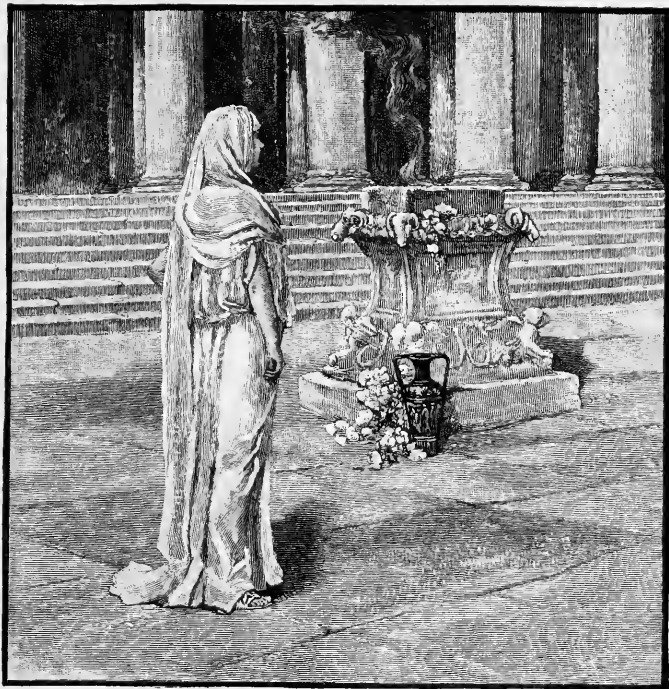
It was the calm and silent night :  
    Seven hundred years and fifty-three  
Had Rome been growing up to might,  
    And now was queen of land and sea.











Apollo, Pallas, Jove, and Mars  
Held undisturbed their ancient reign,  
In the solemn midnight,  
Centuries ago!





'T was in the calm and silent night!  
The senator of haughty Rome  
Impatient urged his chariot's flight,  
From lordly revel rolling home.





Triumphal arches gleaming swell  
His breast with thoughts of boundless sway;







What recked the ROMAN what befell  
A paltry province far away,  
In the solemn midnight,  
Centuries ago!





Within that province far away  
Went plodding home a weary boor :  
A streak of light before him lay,  
Fall'n through a half-shut stable door  
Across his path. He passed ; for nought  
Told what was going on within :  
How keen the stars ! his only thought ;  
The air how calm and cold and thin,  
In the solemn midnight,  
Centuries ago !

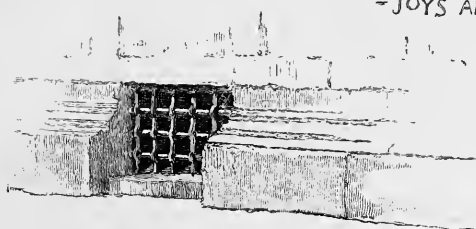








○ STRANGE INDIFFERENCE!—LOW AND HIGH  
DROUSED OVER COMMON  
—JOYS AND CARES!









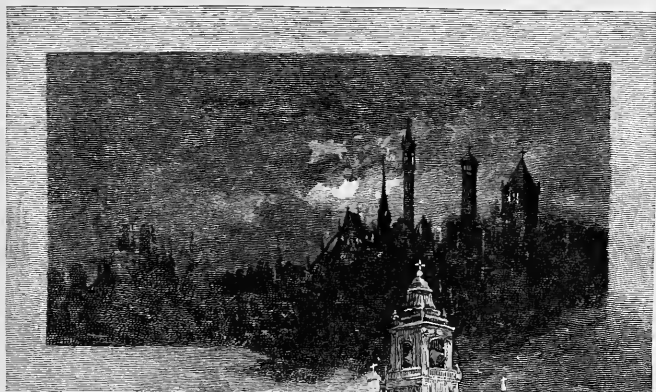
The earth was still—but knew not why ;  
The world was listening—unawares !  
How calm a moment may precede  
One that shall thrill the world for ever !  
To that still moment none would heed  
Man's doom was linked no more to sever,  
In the solemn midnight,  
Centuries ago !





It is the calm and solemn night!





A thousand bells  
ring out,  
and throw  
Their joyous peals abroad,  
and smite  
The darkness, charmed and holy now! -





The night that erst no name had worn,  
To it a happy name is given;



For in that stable lay new-born  
The peaceful Prince of Earth and Heaven,  
In the solemn midnight  
Centuries ago!



















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